GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:682
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
BELOW POVERTY LINE
HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY;K. MURALEEDHARAN;MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding the number of people living below poverty line and the availability of essential basic commodities on account of implementation of liberalisation policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the number of people living below poverty line has increased unprecedently during the last three years and the trend is likely to be continued to increase as assessed by many agencies of country and abroad;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(e) the concrete steps proposed by the Government to overcome the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (e) : The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimates of poverty are available for the year 1993-94 based on the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the 50th Round. The full data from next large survey on consumer expenditure conducted during the period July, 1999 to June, 2000 are under process. These surveys provide data on consumption expenditure at a particular point of time and are not designed to directly assess the impact of economic policies. As such, the estimates of poverty since the initiation of the policies of economic reforms and liberalisation in 1991, is available only for the year 1993-94. Hence, it is not possible to ascertain the change in poverty during the period of economic reforms and also during the last three years. However, comparing two latest estimates, 1987-88 and 1993-94, it is observed that the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined by 2.9 percentage point. The state-wise estimates of percentage of people living below the poverty line for these two years are given in Annexure-I & II.

There is a three-pronged action to alleviate and reduce the poverty in the country. These are:(a) acceleration of economic growth, (b) human, and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting of the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (c) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building for the poor.

The provisional estimate of per capita net availability of certain basic items is given below.

1. Cereals - 428.8 grams per day in 1999

2. Pulses - 38.6 grams per day in 1999

3. Edible oil - 9.5 kg in 1998-99

4. Vanaspati - 1.0 kg in 1998-99

5. Cloth - 28.2 meters in 1998-99
6. Tea - 676 grams in 1998

ANNEXURE-I

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 1987-88

State	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1. Andhra Pradesh	96.38	20.92	64.05	40.11	160.43	25.86
2. Arunachal Pradesh	2.75	39.35	0.08	9.94	2.83	36.22
3. Assam	73.53	39.35	2.22	9.94	75.75	36.21
4. Bihar	370.23	52.63	50.70	48.73	420.93	52.13
5. Goa	1.31	17.64	1.65	35.48	2.96	24.52
6. Gujarat	74.13	28.67	48.22	37.26	122.36	31.54
7 Haryana	18.86	16.22	6.51	17.99	25.37	16.64
8. Himachal Pradesh	7.27	16.28	0.25	6.29	7.52	15.45
9. Jammu & Kashmir	14.11	25.70	2.85	17.47	16.95	23.82
10. Karnataka	96.81	32.82	61.80	48.42	158.61	37.53
11. Kerala	61.64	29.10	26.84	40.33	88.48	31.79
12. Madhya Pradesh	200.02	41.92	64.29	47.09	264.30	43.07
13. Maharashtra	186.89	40.78	109.38	39.78	296.27	40.41
14. Manipur	4.83	39.35	0.46	9.94	5.29	31.35
15. Meghalaya	5.18	39.35	0.30	9.94	5.48	33.92
16. Mizoram	1.46	39.35	0.25	9.94	1.70	27.52
17. Nagaland	3.49	39.35	0.18	9.94	3.66	34.43
18. Orissa	149.98	57.64	15.95	41.63	165.93	55.58
19. Punjab	17.09	12.60	8.08	14.67	25.17	13.20
20. Rajasthan	104.97	33.21	37.93	41.92	142.90	35.15
21. Sikkim	1.31	39.35	0.04	9.94	1.36	36.06
22. Tamil Nadu	161.80	45.80	69.27	38.64	231.07	43.39
23. Tripura	8.49	39.35	0.35	9.94	8.84	35.23
24. Uttar Pradesh	429.74	41.10	106.79	42.96	536.53	41.46
25. West Bengal	223.37	48.30	60.24	35.08	283.61	44.72
26. Andaman & Nic.	0.83	45.80	0.26	38.64	1.09	43.89
27. Chandigarh	0.08	14.67	0.76	14.67	0.84	14.67
28. Dadra & N. Hav.	0.79	67.11	-	-	0.79	67.11
29. Delhi	0.10	1.29	10.15	13.56	10.25	12.41
30. Lakshadweep	0.07	29.10	0.10	40.33	0.17	34.95
31. Pondicherry	1.33	45.80	1.72	38.64	3.05	41.46
All India	2318.79	39.09	751.69	38.20	3070.49	38.86

Note:

1. `Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh,`
 `Meghalaya,Mizoram,Manipur,Nagaland and Tripura.`

2. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

3. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshdweep.

4. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.

5. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is
 used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra
 & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

ANNEXURE-II

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 1993-94

S.No.	State	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.49	15.92	74.47	38.33	153.97	22.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.62	45.01	0.11	7.73	3.73	39.35
3.	Assam	94.33	45.01	2.03	7.73	96.36	40.86
4.	Bihar	450.86	58.21	42.49	34.50	493.35	54.96
5.	Goa	0.38	5.34	1.53	27.03	1.91	14.92
6.	Gujarat	62.16	22.18	43.02	27.89	105.19	24.21
7	Haryana	36.56	28.02	7.31	16.38	43.88	25.05
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.40	30.34	0.46	9.18	15.86	28.44
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	19.05	30.34	1.86	9.18	20.92	25.17
10.	Karnataka	95.99	29.88	60.46	40.14	156.46	33.16
11.	Kerala	55.95	25.76	20.46	24.55	76.41	25.43
12.	Madhya Pradesh	216.19	40.64	82.33	48.38	298.52	42.52
13.	Maharashtra	193.33	37.93	111.90	35.15	305.22	36.86
14.	Manipur	6.33	45.01	0.47	7.73	6.80	33.78
15.	Meghalaya	7.09	45.01	0.29	7.73	7.38	37.92
16.	Mizoram	1.64	45.01	0.30	7.73	1.94	25.66
17.	Nagaland	4.85	45.01	0.20	7.73	5.05	37.92
18.	Orissa	140.90	49.72	19.70	41.64	160.60	48.56
19.	Punjab	17.76	11.95	7.35	11.35	25.11	11.77
20.	Rajasthan	94.68	26.46	33.82	30.49	128.50	27.41
21.	Sikkim	1.81	45.01	0.03	7.73	1.84	41.43
22.	Tamil Nadu	121.70	32.48	80.40	39.77	202.10	35.03
23.	Tripura	11.41	45.01	0.38	7.73	11.79	39.01
24.	Uttar Pradesh	496.17	42.28	108.28	35.39	604.46	40.85
25.	West Bengal	209.90	40.80	44.66	22.41	254.56	35.66
26.	Andaman & Nic.	0.73	32.48	0.33	39.77	1.06	34.47
27.	Chandigarh	0.07	11.35	0.73	11.35	0.80	11.35
28.	Dadra & N. Haveli	0.72	51.95	0.06	39.93	0.77	50.84
29.	Daman & Diu	0.03	5.34	0.15	27.03	0.18	15.80
30.	Delhi	0.19	1.90	15.32	16.03	15.51	14.69
31.	Lakshadweep	0.06	25.76	0.08	24.55	0.14	25.04
32.	Pondicherry	0.93	32.48	2.38	39.77	3.31	37.40
	All India	2440.31	37.27	763.37	32.36	3203.68	35.97

1. `Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh,Meghalaya,`
`Mizoram,Manipur,Nagaland and Tripura.`

2. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

3. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshdweep.

4. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.

5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.

7 Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

8. Poverty Ratio of Himachal Pradesh is used for Jammu & Kashmir.